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#4

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Patrick R. O'Connell

Group Art Unit: 3751

Serial No.: 09/454,103

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: 12/03/99

For: Fuel Tank Filler Neck and Method of Manufacturing Same

Attorney Docket No.: SHEL 0101 PUS

*Considered
12/15/00
by Examiner*

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3)

Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and § 1.97-1.98, the information contained in this paper and the attached photographs is submitted herewith for consideration by the Examiner. This Statement is being filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3), i.e., before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.

More than a year prior to the filing of this patent application a fuel tank filler neck with a welded seam was designed by Ford Motor Company and fabricated by Shelby Enterprises. Attached are four photographs of that filler neck. This filler neck is made by a process of repeated reductions and expansions of a seamed welded tube.

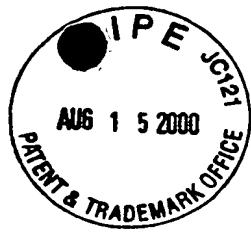
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this paper, including all enclosures referred to herein, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail, postage pre-paid, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, United States Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231 on:

August 8, 2000
Date of Deposit

James Proscia
Name of Person Signing

James Proscia
Signature



While this Statement is being filed in compliance with the duty of disclosure, citation of the attached references is not to be construed as an admission that any of the references are "material" as defined under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

Consideration and entry into the record of these references is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick R. O'Connell

By: James Proscia
James Proscia
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Date: August 8, 2000

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